Pandemic prompts streaming opportunities in education, arts

By Mark Brennan FOR THE SENTINEL

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced many changes in the ways Americans conduct their lives and these changes differ both from state to state and region to region.

One thing that has been a loss in the lives of nearly everyone in the country is the elimination of live entertainment, youth sports leagues, education and group gatherings.

The cessation of professional and collegiate sports, music, and theatrical performances, retail shopping, dining out, weddings and church services, fraternal organizations and going to the movies, has been national in scope.

An unexpected positive outcome of all this has been the unprecedented expansion of live streamed events, often available for later viewing, presenting everyone with the chance to enjoy world class performances, lectures from renowned educators and how-to classes from some of the world's great artists.

There are hundreds of online exercise classes available on YouTube, which has become an even more essential media platform during the COVID crisis, and through Zoom, including livestreams of yoga and fitness classes.

In addition, major universities Harvard, Yale, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Stanford and many state schools, including the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, have added free classes for community members to take.

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dents with registration trolled circumstances. fees waived or eliminated. generally updated their inavailable both to registered students, and for free to interested community members.

Many museums, theaters and performance the number of live streaming performances, archival tours and lectures and vidon their websites.

The Smithsonian Institution is the largest from the nearly 50-yearcomplex of educational, research and archival collections in the world. It non, Dean of U of O has added significantly to all the institute's virtual platforms in light of the pandemic.

the Smithsonian one of the son cancellation. world's foremost online educators in the world.

Smithsonian to find some of social distancing," way to continue with its Madison-Cannon. mission, despite the restrictions put in place to come, we'll be announcfight the COVID-19 pan- ing a variety of ways that demic, has resulted in a unique opportunity for homebound citizens with many different types of in-

The wide array of education and cultural assets are owned and maintained by the American people and are now available to more Classical Oregon and livepeople — not just here but streamed at KWAX.uore around the world — than ever before.

There are daily schedules of classes, workshops and lectures that are often live, with museum guides from the featured institution, and special archived of the radio show will fea-

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Most of these are of- items that are only suitable ture a selection of memo- now available online. fered to interested resi- for viewing under con- rable past performances.

One of the main areas of These institutions have American culture that has been diminished during dividual websites to share this time of closure has the classes and activities been in the realm of artistic performances.

Concerts, plays and annual tourist favorites like Eugene's Oregon Bach Festival and Ashland's Oregon Shakespeare Festival groups are also increasing have cancelled their respective seasons.

While the Bach Festival has cancelled its 2020 eo retrospectives of past season, for the first time is exhibits that are available presenting a "Best Of" series, which includes many virtuoso performances old festival. Sabrina Madison-Can-

School of Music Dance, oversees world-famous event and recently released a state-These efforts have made ment announcing the sea-"We've all been finding

new ways to connect in The decision by the this unprecedented era said the weeks and months to you'll be able to enjoy the rich musical legacy of the Oregon Bach Festival from the comfort of your own home."

One initiative is a series of "Oregon Bach Festival Radio" shows that will be broadcast on KWAX-FM gon.edu with hosts Peter van de Graaff and Rocky Lamanna.

Madison-Cannon also suggested listeners relive special past performances from, since every episode

There will be a new broadcast to listen to every weekday during June 26 through July 10, the dates when the festival would have been held this summer.

For more information, visit oregonbach-festival.

While the Oregon not be entertaining visitors this season, National Theater Live (NTL), ntlive.nationaltheatre. org.uk, has scheduled a free performance of "The Madness of George III" for this week. Another UK based live performance platform, What'sOnStage. com, lists free upcoming performances at the Royal Opera House, Shakespeare's Globe Theater and performances by the legendary troops of Cirque du Soleil.

New York, one of the American cities hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, has been the most proactive when it comes to transferring live productions to online platforms.

The NYC American Museum of Natural History has a daily live event scheduled, which include commentary by staff, and the New York Metropolitan Opera will be streaming performances from its vast archives on a nightly basis at 4:30 PDT.

The nation's first public broadcasting station, National Education Television, WNET, produces and presents PBS series "Nature," "Great Performances," "American Masters" and a range of docchildren's umentaries, programs, and local news and cultural which are all

The Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts will be presenting a variety of free musical productions over the summer, listing events from the Met and the New York Philharmonic as scheduled.

The NY Times is offering an ongoing series of lectures from its staff writers and columnists. Shakespeare Festival will Highlighted this month livestream and on deis children's graphic artist mand.

Wendy McNaughton, who will be live streaming daily at 10 a.m. PDT for 30 minutes or so, "Which is just long enough for a parent to get a little work done, take a shower and take a couple of deep breaths," McNaughton said.

These are just a small number of the ever growing list of online viewing options available in both







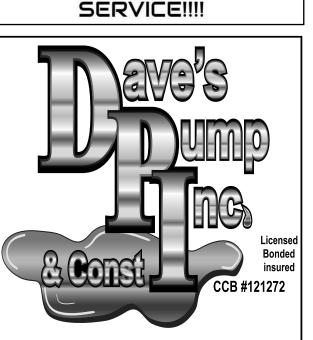


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